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Message Text

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63
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 IO-12 ACDA-19 RSR-01

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R 131040 Z APR 73
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6614
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC
USDEL PARIS

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR CH CB

SUBJECT: PEKING WELCOMES SIHANOUK

SUMMARY: AT THE WELCOMING BANQUET FOR SIHANOUK' S RETURN TO PEKING, PREMIER CHOU CALLED FOR AN END TO US MILITARY ACTIVITIES WHILE SIHANOUK DROPPED A HINT OF WILLINGNESS TO TALK WITH THE GKR.

END SUMMARY.
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1. FOLLOWING SIHANOUK' S TRIUMPHANT RETURN TO PEKING AND THE PEOPLE' S DAILY EDITORIAL HAILING HIS ALLEGED TRAVELS IN THE " LIBERATED" AREAS OF CAMBODIA (HK 3549, WR 15), PREMIER CHOU EN- LAI HOSTED A GALA BANQUET ON APRIL 12 TO WELCOME SIHANOUK BACK. THE CHINESE TURNOUT INCLUDED EVERY ACTIVE CENTRAL LEADER EXCEPT MAO AND HIS WIFE, AND PROVIDED THE OCCASION TO REINTRODUCE FORMER PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL TENG HSIAO- PING (HK 3625).

2. IN HIS BANQUET SPEECH CHOU PRAISED SIHANOUK AS AN " OUT- STANDING PATRIOT" WHOSE VISIT TO HIS HOMELAND WOULD FURTHER THE PROGRESS OF THE CAMBODIAN STRUGGLE AND HASTEN THE COLLAPSE OF THE " LON NOL CLIQUE." CHOU CHARGED THAT US BOMBING AND OTHER MILITARY ACTIVITIES SERIOUSLY CONTRAVENED THE PARIS AGRLD, SOME OF AMERICA' S BEST KNOWN WRITERS, DRAMATISTS, POETS AND ARTISTS COULD BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN PORTIONS OF THE THREE TO FOUR DAY EVENT.

2. CONFERENCE ALONG ABOVE LINES WOULD ONLY SUCCEED IF IT HAD WIDESPREAD, ACTIVE SUPPORT FROM AMERICAN SCHOLARS AND GOOD PROSPECTS FOR ATTENDANCE BY SUFFICIENTLYLARGE NUMBER OF SCHOLARS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. ALSO ESSENTIAL THAT CONFERENCE BE CONCEIVED AS SERIOUS ACADEMIC AFFAIR IF FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE AND RESULTS ARE TO BE ASSURED. WE FEEL CERTAIN SUCH CONFERENCE WOULD BE WELL ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF AMERICAN STUDIES, LITERATURE AND HISTORY SOCIETIES OF JAPAN; AND WE WOULD ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS HERE FOR TRAVEL COSTS OF JAPANESE SCHOLARS, WITH POST FUNDS BEING RESERVED FOR EXPENSES OF SCHOLARS WHILE IN U. S.

3. WHILE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE ALSO PLAN SOMEWHAT MORE REGIONALIZED KHOTO SEMINAR DURING 1976, WE ARE INCLINED FAVOR SUCH MEETING IN JAPAN IN JULY 1975, WITH ALL LIMITED LOCAL RESOURCES IN 1976 FOCUSED ON U. S. WORLD CONFERENCE; GOOD JAPANESE ATTENDANCE AT U. S. CONFERENCE WOULD BE BEST ASSURED BY SKIPPING ANY POSSIBLY COMPTING CONFERENCE HERE DURING SAME YEAR. 1975 SEMINAR HERE COULD IN FACT BE A BUILD- UP TO 1976 U. S. MEETING, WITH BEST 1975 PAPERS SELECTED FOR DELIVERY AT 1976 CONFERENCE.

4. AMERICAN STUDIES WORLD CONFERENCE IDEA WOULD OF COURSE NEED BE CAREFULLY EXPLORED WITH LEADING AMERICAN SCHOLARS AND THEN WITH OTHER POSTS. CONFERENCE COSTS ALSO MAJOR FACTOR. SINCE POST BICENTENNIAL SEMINAR PLANS IN AMERICAN STUDIES FIELD WILL DEPEND ON OUTCOME OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS, REQUEEST POST BE ADVISED IF AGENCY, DEPARTMENT WILLING TO PURSUE IDEA OR NOT.
CARTER

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